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February 13, 2007

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE
ON PUBLIC UTILITIES AND PUBLIC WORKS

The Committee on Public Utilities and Public Works convened on February 13, 2007, with Chairman Walter Pero presiding and Committee Members Aldermen Bruce Desmond and Rebekah Gewirtz also present and voting. Also present were Aldermen Maryann Heuston, Sean O'Donovan, William Roche and Dennis Sullivan as well as William Zamparelli from NSTAR.

Alderman Roche recused himself from all discussions involving NSTAR.

Mr. Zamparelli was before the committee to discuss a Board order regarding the double pole at 12 Morrison Ave. The committee asked that Mr. Zamparelli respond to the order, in writing, and that he forward the response to the committee. Mr. Zamparelli spoke about the need for a database of information to make the coordination of line transfers and double pole replacements more effective. As for broken street lights and power outages, Mr. Zamparelli said that the public can report these issues directly to NSTAR at 1-800-STREETLIGHTS or via email at customer.service@nstar.com

Chairman Pero asked that Mr. Zamparelli inform the management at NSTAR that the City of Somerville is not at all pleased with the manner in which double poles, street light and power outages are handled and suggested that NSTAR coordinate a strategy with the city to respond to these issues. Chairman Pero asked Mr. Zamparelli to provide the committee with the backup information that NSTAR utilizes in handling outages. Chairman Pero further requested that Mr. Zamparelli contact Sean Murphy at the city's Constituent Services Department, (311), to try to develop a similar response program to service customers requests.

The committee will meet in one month, at which time Mr. Zamparelli was asked to return and present NSTAR's strategy for responding to citizens' requests.

The committee discussed matters before it and took action on the following 2 items:

175305: Communication from Bob Bowes - Re: hydraulic fluid spills on city streets

RECOMMENDATION: Should be placed on file

VOTE: Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

178271: Communication from Senator Shannon - Responding to #178160 re: removal of snow from state owned parcels of land in Somerville.

RECOMMENDATION: Should be placed on file

VOTE: Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

Alderman Walter Pero, Chairman
Committee on Public Utilities and Public Works

COMMITTEE REPORT

Report of the Committee on Public Utilities and
Public Works, February 13, 2007

In Board of Aldermen

Clerk